

STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION,
DIVISION OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING,

Petitioner,

v.

FGCC Case No.: 2024-055870

CRYSTAL SARAHAI VELAZQUEZ,

Respondent.

_____ /

FINAL ORDER

This matter appeared before the Florida Gaming Control Commission at a duly-noticed public meeting on March 6, 2025 for final agency action pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes. After a complete review of the record in this matter, the Commission makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

1. A two-count Administrative Complaint was filed in this case on January 15, 2025, alleging that Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-mutuel facilities and all facilities of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida pursuant to sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, Florida Statutes, and violated rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit "1" and incorporated by reference.

2. The Administrative Complaint, Election of Rights form, an Explanation of Rights, and a cover letter were served on Respondent January 22, 2025. Proof of service is attached hereto as Exhibit "2" and incorporated by reference.

3. The election of rights accompanying the administrative complaint made it clear that the Respondent had 21 days to file a written response to the administrative complaint.

4. Respondent has not filed a timely response to the Administrative Complaint. Respondent has not submitted any evidence or made any allegations that would support the application of the doctrine of equitable tolling.

Having considered the Administrative Complaint, the service of the Administrative Complaint with Election of Rights form, Explanation of Rights, and cover letter on Respondent along with Respondent's failure to respond, and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is hereby

ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

1. The allegations of fact and the conclusions of law in the Administrative Complaint are adopted in their entirety herein.

2. Respondent's slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel wagering combination occupational license number 12906943 is hereby **REVOKED**.

3. Respondent is **PERMANENTLY EXCLUDED** from all pari-mutuel facilities and any facilities of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

DONE AND ORDERED this 12th day of MARCH, 2025.

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

On Behalf of

Julie Brown, Vice-Chair

John D'Aquila, Commissioner

Charles Drago, Commissioner

Tina Repp, Commissioner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Any party to this proceeding has the right to seek its judicial review under section 120.68, Florida Statutes, by the filing of an original notice of appeal pursuant to rules 9.110 and 9.190, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Commission, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-7033 (Email: clerk@flgaming.gov), and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate Florida district court of appeal. The notice of appeal must be filed (received) by the Clerk of the Commission within thirty (30) days after the date this Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 12th day of MARCH, 2025, a true and correct copy of this Final Order has been sent via U.S. Mail to:

Crystal Sarahai Velazquez
5401 NW 173rd Street
Miami Gardens, FL 33305



CLERK OF THE COMMISSION
Florida Gaming Control Commission

CC: Ebonie Lanier

STATE OF FLORIDA
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ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

The Florida Gaming Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (“Petitioner”), files this Administrative Complaint against Crystal Sarahai Velazquez (“Respondent”), and alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating pari-mutuel wagering, slot machines, and cardroom operations pursuant to chapters 550, 551, and 849, Florida Statutes.
2. At all times material hereto, Respondent held a Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 12906943, issued pursuant to section 551.107(2)(b), Florida Statutes.
3. At all times material hereto, South Florida Racing Association, LLC d/b/a Hialeah Park Racing & Casino was a facility operated by a permitholder authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering, cardroom operations, and slot machine operations in the state of Florida.
4. At all times material hereto, Respondent worked as a poker brush at Hialeah Park Racing & Casino.

EXHIBIT
1

COUNT I

5. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained within paragraphs one through four as though fully set forth herein.

6. On or about September 6, 2024, Respondent was observed via Hialeah Park Racing & Casino surveillance taking money from the tip box prior to turning in her tips to be verified by the facility cage cashier.

7. On or about September 11, 2024, Respondent's employment with Hialeah Park Racing & Casino was terminated.

8. Rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, provides, in pertinent part, that "[n]o person shall, either directly or indirectly (a) [e]mploy or attempt to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any participant in a game or the cardroom operator."

9. Section 849.086(14)(a), Florida Statutes, provides that:

The commission may deny a license or the renewal thereof, or may suspend or revoke any license, when the applicant has: violated or failed to comply with the provisions of this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; knowingly caused, aided, abetted, or conspired with another to cause any person to violate this section or any rules adopted pursuant thereto; or obtained a license or permit by fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment; or if the holder of such license or permit is no longer eligible under this section.

10. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated rule 75-11.005(4), Florida Administrative Code, by employing a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud the cardroom operator and is therefore subject to suspension or revocation of her occupational license.

COUNT II

11. Petitioner realleges and incorporates the allegations contained within paragraphs one through four as though fully set forth herein.

12. On or about September 12, 2024, Respondent was permanently excluded from Hialeah Park Racing & Casino.

13. Respondent was permanently excluded for the reasons alleged in Exhibit 1.

14. Section 550.0251(6), Florida Statutes, provides in relevant part:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any pari-mutuel facility in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any and all pari-mutuel facilities in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. The commission may exclude from any pari-mutuel facility within this state any person who has been ejected from a pari-mutuel facility in this state or who has been excluded from any pari-mutuel facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over pari-mutuel facilities in such other state.

(Emphasis supplied).

15. Section 551.112, Florida Statutes, provides:

In addition to the power to exclude certain persons from any facility of a slot machine licensee in this state, the commission may exclude any person from any facility of a slot machine licensee in this state for conduct that would constitute, if the person were a licensee, a violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission. The commission may exclude from any facility of a slot machine licensee any person who has been ejected from a facility of a slot machine licensee in this state or who has been excluded from any facility of a slot machine licensee or gaming facility in another state by the governmental department, agency, commission, or authority exercising regulatory jurisdiction over the gaming in such other state. This section does not abrogate the common law right of a slot machine licensee to exclude a patron absolutely in this state.

(Emphasis supplied).

16. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is subject to exclusion from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida based on her exclusion from Hialeah Park Racing & Casino on September 12, 2024.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests the Florida Gaming Control Commission enter an Order revoking or suspending Respondent's Slot Machine/Cardroom/Pari-Mutuel Combination Occupational License, number 12906943, and excluding Respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel wagering facilities and any facility of a slot machine licensee in the state of Florida, in accordance with sections 550.0251(6) and 551.112, along with any other remedy provided by chapters 550 and 551, and section 849.086, Florida Statutes, and/or the rules promulgated thereunder.

This Administrative Complaint for FGCC Case Number 2024-055870 is signed this 2nd day of January 2025.

/s/Emily A. Alvarado

Emily A. Alvarado
Chief Attorney
FBN: 1025200
Florida Gaming Control Commission
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Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering
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NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, you have the right to request a hearing to challenge the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint. If you choose to request a hearing, you will have the right to be represented by counsel, or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses, and to have subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum issued on your behalf.

Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the charges contained in this Administrative Complaint must conform to rule 28-106.2015, Florida Administrative Code. Pursuant to rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code, you must request a hearing within 21 days from receipt of this Notice, or you will waive your right to request a hearing.

Mediation under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.